MCA for PPP in Building NHs

2565. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government finally came out with a long-awaited Model Concession Agreement (MCA) for public private participation (PPP) in building the National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the States would not be providing any counter-guarantee in relation to any road project in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. The new Model Concession Agreement (MCA) for Public Private Partnership has been approved by the Committee on Infrastructure (CoI).

(b) In the new MCA, certain provisions like capacity augmentation based on the traffic, partial traffic risk sharing, provision for distribution of grant/receipt of premium, out-put based technical requirements, obligation of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for pre-construction activities, revision of concession period on variation of traffic growth etc., have been introduced.

(c) and (d) Under Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) (Toll) projects, concerned State has to execute State Support Agreement as per provision of the Concession Agreement. No other counter guarantee from the concerned State is required under BOT (Toll) Projects.

Shortage of pilots for shipping

2566. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the port trusts in India are facing acute shortage of pilots which is affecting pilotage of vessels;

(b) whether poaching is being done by foreign shipping lines offering hefty salaries, which has resulted in migration of Indian pilots; and

(c) if so, the action plan of Government to control this migration?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Except Visakhapatnam, Tuticorin and Paradip Port Trusts other Major Port Trusts are facing shortage of pilots affecting the pilotage of vessels. Some of the pilots working with the Major Port Trusts are being attracted away to work in the privately operated Ports in India, foreign Ports and shipping lines on competitive terms and conditions. Indian Ports Association (IPA) has constituted a committee to propose model terms and conditions for hiring retired pilots as well as pilots to be employed on contract basis in the Major Ports. Government has also constituted a Pay Revision Committee to review the pay and service conditions of the employees of Major Port Trusts including pilots.